

From: John Engel
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:26am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir/Madam

I object to the proposed final judgment in the Microsoft antitrust case.

It appears to me to do little to remove the applications barrier to entry that is the heart of the Microsoft monopoly.

I strongly object to the term "for the sole purpose of interacting with a Windows Operating System product" in the proposed final judgment. This allows Microsoft to maintain its monopoly to the detriment of anyone wishing to use a program written for Windows regardless of whether they wish to use the Windows OS itself. The problem is the APPLICATION barrier to entry, not the OS barrier to entry.

The final judgment should require Microsoft to publish, not license or disclose under NDA, its file formats and communications protocols. Let Microsoft earn its dominance by its programs, not by the elaborate strategy of vendor lock in and commercial intimidation that it uses now.

Sincerely,

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